



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Bill Perry 517-803-2464
bperry@readynation.org
Chris Beakey 302 448-0253
cbeakey@fightcrime.org

**LAW ENFORCEMENT, BUSINESS LEADERS JOIN FORCES
TO IMPROVE MICHIGAN'S WORKFORCE**

**New Report Calls for Strengthening Michigan's Community Colleges to Prepare Tomorrow's
Workforce, Save Tax Dollars, and Improve Security.**

Location: Sneden Hall, Grand Rapids Community College, Devos Campus
415 Fulton Street, E. Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Date/time: Tuesday, July 26, 11 a.m., with speakers on site by 10:45

Speakers: Kent County Sheriff Larry Stelma
M.L. Scales & Associates CEO Milton L. Scales
Grand Rapids Community College Provost Laurie Chesley, Ph.D.

Representatives of Michigan's law enforcement and business community are joining forces in calling for more support for Michigan's community colleges.

Their message: With improved affordability and accountability, community colleges will continue to be Michigan's best asset for safe streets and a productive economy.

That message will be delivered at Grand Rapids Community College, which is a well-known for preparing students for Michigan jobs. With the release of a new report – **PUBLIC SAFETY, PUBLIC SAVINGS AND A BETTER ECONOMY FOR ALL** – the College will be lauded for its role in training Michigan deputies and police officers and success in addressing a dire "skills gap" faced by employers statewide.

PHOTO-B-ROLL OPPORTUNITIES: The event will be attended by students from the Grand Rapids Community College Police Academy. Police academy classes will also be in session during the morning.

PUBLIC SAFETY, PUBLIC SAVINGS is a report from Council for a Strong America that spotlights the concerns of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a public safety organization of 5,000 sheriffs, police chiefs and prosecutors, and ReadyNation, an organization of business leaders. To learn more and to access the report online, visit www.fightcrime.org or www.readynation.org.

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